

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 13 ~~claim 7~~, wherein said groove-free separator plates have a thickness of from 0.5 to 1.52 mm per plate.

7-12. (cancelled)

13. (new) A wet multiplate clutch comprising plural friction plates and plural separator plates that are alternately arranged with the plural friction plates, wherein said separator plates are groove-free separator plates, wherein between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other, at least two of the plural groove-free separator plates are disposed separably from each other, wherein the at least two separator plates are completely separate from each other and can freely move independently of each other, and wherein each two mutually-adjacent ones of said plural groove-free separator plates disposed between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other have been coated at mutually-opposing surfaces thereof.

14. (new) A wet multiplate clutch comprising plural friction plates and plural separator plates that are alternately arranged with the plural friction plates, wherein said separator plates are groove-free separator plates, wherein between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other, at least two of the plural groove-free separator plates are disposed separably from each other, wherein the at least two separator plates are completely separate from each other and can freely move independently of each other, and wherein each two

Reply dated March 22, 2005

Response to Office Action dated November 22, 2004

mutually-adjacent ones of said plural groove-free separator plates disposed between each two friction plates arranged adjacent to each other have been machined at mutually-opposing surfaces thereof.

15. (new) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 13, wherein said mutually-opposing surfaces of said each two mutually adjacent groove-free separator plates have been coated with a coating material selected from the group consisting of thermosetting resins, engineering plastics, general-purpose resins, polymer alloys, butadiene nitrile rubber, and high elasticity resins.

16. (new) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 14, wherein said groove-free separator plates have a thickness of from 0.5 to 1.52 mm per plate.

17. (new) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 14, wherein said mutually-opposing surfaces of said each two mutually adjacent groove-free separator plates have been machined by shot blasting.

18. (new) A wet multiplate clutch according to claim 14, wherein said mutually-opposing surfaces of said each two mutually adjacent groove-free separator plates have been machined by shot peening.